

What is claimed is:

[Claim 1] A self-propelled cleaner, comprising:

a drive unit having an outer surface and a motorized internal mechanism adapted to impart motion to said drive unit;

a sheet having a first side and a second side;

wherein first side of said sheet is operatively connected to the outer surface of said drive unit.

[Claim 2] The self-propelled cleaning machine as in claim 1, wherein said sheet completely encompasses said drive unit.

[Claim 3] The self-propelled cleaning machine as in claim 1, wherein said sheet partially encompasses said drive unit.

[Claim 4] The self-propelled cleaning machine as in claim 2, wherein the shape of said outer surface of said drive unit is at least substantially spherical.

[Claim 5] The self-propelled cleaning machine as in claim 2, wherein the shape of said outer surface of said drive unit is at least substantially elliptical.

[Claim 6] The self-propelled cleaning machine as in claim 2, wherein the shape of said outer surface of said drive unit is at least substantially cylindrical.

[Claim 7] The self-propelled cleaning machine as in claim 3, wherein the shape of said outer surface of said drive unit is at least substantially spherical.

[Claim 8] The self-propelled cleaning machine as in claim 3, wherein the shape of said outer surface of said drive unit is at least substantially elliptical.

[Claim 9] The self-propelled cleaning machine as in claim 3, wherein the shape of said outer surface of said drive unit is at least substantially cylindrical.

[Claim 10] The self-propelled cleaning machine as in claim 2, wherein said sheet is connected to said drive unit.

[Claim 11] The self-propelled cleaning machine claim 3, wherein said sheet is connected to said drive unit.

[Claim 12] The self-propelled cleaning machine as in claim 1, further comprising a means to detect and display low battery power.

[Claim 13] The self-propelled cleaning machine as in claim 1, further comprising a means such as an audible alarm to alert the user when said machine is out of power or lost.

[Claim 14] The self-propelled cleaning machine as in claim 1, further comprising a means to detect and indicate that the machine's motion is impeded.

[Claim 15] A method for cleaning comprising;

acquiring a drive unit having a motorized internal mechanism adapted to impart motion to said drive unit;

applying a sheet directly to said drive unit;

activating said drive unit;

placing said drive unit and said sheet onto the surface to be cleaned.

[Claim 16] A method of making a covering for said drive unit of claim 1, comprising:

forming an envelope from one or more cleaning sheets into which said drive unit can be snugly inserted and removed.

[Claim 17] A method of making a self-propelled cleaner, comprising:

obtaining a drive unit having a motorized internal mechanism adapted to impart motion to said drive unit;

providing a sheet for use with said drive unit.

[Claim 18] A method of cleaning multiple surfaces comprising;
acquiring a drive unit having a motorized internal mechanism adapted to impart motion to said drive unit;

directly applying a sheet to more than one dimension of said drive unit;
activating said drive unit;

placing said drive unit and sheet in area where simultaneous contact with multiple surfaces can occur.

[Claim 19] A toy comprising;

a drive unit having an outer surface and a motorized internal mechanism adapted to impart motion to said drive unit;

a sheet having a first side and a second side;

wherein first side of said sheet is operatively connected to the outer surface of said drive unit.